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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. at the University of Lemberg /Lwow/. was a large institution and granted degrees in medicine, engineering, law, philosophy, theology, and animal husbandry.

2. The medical school was kept open during both the Soviet and the German occupations, although the school was transferred to Krakow in 1944.

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3. The medical school of the University of Lemberg was in one unit and consisted of a number of modern buildings. There were separate buildings for chemistry, physics, pathology, surgery, anatomy, and gynecology. However, general courses, such as the history of medicine, etc, were taught in the city of Lemberg rather than at the medical center. The University also had facilities for post-graduate work.

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4. The University had modern equipment, including x-ray equipment, practically all of which was imported from Germany. In 1942-44 new instruments and equipment were being imported from Germany but the University was keeping the old equipment as well for emergency usage. Such items as clamps, needle holders, forceps, and tables were also brought in from Germany and Austria as there was no production of these items in Poland.

5. The training at the medical school consisted of five semesters of pre-clinical work and four semesters of clinical work before the granting of a degree.

6. It was obligatory for students to have six months' hospital experience before entering the clinical phase of their training. The hospital experience was in such activities as lab work, blood tests, urine analysis, gastric analysis, changing dressings, and learning the technique of injections.

7. After completing the clinical phase of medical education, the medical student was granted a document known as "absolutorium." He then was qualified to take his final examination. After completing all examinations, it was necessary to write a thesis on some phase of medicine before obtaining the degree of doctor of medicine. However, it was still not possible for the doctor to enter practice. He was required to spend from two to three years in hospital work before being granted a license to practice.

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8. The medical school and hospitals generally were short on drugs and it was necessary for doctors to treat serious diseases with skill and imagination, as they could not rely on merely giving a patient a shot of penicillin. For example, doctors had to be chemists and pharmacists as well, for on such items as digitalis and many others, we had to prepare our own formulas.

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a small hospital in Kosiw. This was a hospital of about 70 beds and it served an area equivalent to a county in the US. Its jurisdiction covered a radius of about 40 miles in a mountainous area, but the hospital was used only for real emergencies and operations as it was very difficult to get the hardy people living in the area ever to go near the hospital.

10. There was also an excellent modern hospital of about one hundred beds at Kolimyja. This hospital served an area of about four counties and had an excellent building and was very well staffed. The hospital had a number of surgeons on the staff and a Dr Stankewycz was a top flight x-ray specialist.

11. When the Soviets invaded the county they did not strip the hospitals of equipment, although they did take all of the drugs and pharmaceuticals and especially the ampoules which had been sent from Germany. However, the Soviets did strip apparatus from the laboratories in schools, particularly the physics laboratories.

12. The Soviets arrested many of the best doctors in Lemberg /Lwow/ and took them East. with the exception of some of Ukraine origin who were taken with the Soviet army. Some of them came back later with the German army. All of the top figures at the University of Lemberg were arrested by the Soviets. A director of Scientific Activity and a director of Education, who were political commissars, were assigned to the University. The director of Education was responsible for instruction of students in Leninism, Marxism, and dialectal materialism.

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13. The Soviets are not as good in medicine as the Germans It was rather interesting note that the Soviet doctors do not use Latin nomenclature except on rare occasions. Special permission was required for any students to enter any areas of the USSR, but the Soviets sent in hundreds of students from the Soviet Ukraine for training at the University of Lemberg Medical School.

14. The Soviets apparently believe in training two types of doctors. One group, I believe known as " " is given elementary medical education only. They are trained in masses and are given no postgraduate work. They are qualified for minor general practice but definitely are not qualified for any serious work.

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15. The " " group comprises the vast bulk of Soviet medical doctors. However, the second group, which is limited to a comparative few, actually is given years of specialised training and there is no reason to think that such doctors are not equal to anything in the world.

16. The Soviets favored native Russians over other groups, such as Ukraines. For example, a Dr Pilatov of Kiev was one of the world's top flight experts in eye conditions, and was one of the first to transplant the human eye. However, he received no recognition because he was not a native Russian. On the other hand, Pavlov has been praised to the skies by the USSR because he is a native Russian.

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